

**IMPROVED HYDRATION OF GUAR GUM POWDER**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method, and a product of such method, in which the manufacture of guar gum powder includes the additional step of extruding hydrated and flaked guar splits prior to grinding and drying. The extruding step may be included before or after the step of flaking the splits. The inclusion of the extruding step, along with the flaking step, has been found to create a guar gum powder product which has advantageous properties over the prior art. These advantageous properties include (1) increasing the hydration rate and the hydration acceleration rate of the guar gum powder without any corresponding change in particle size, and (2) providing a hydration acceleration rate that is less affected by cold temperatures.